

Go International: in for the count

The role of outward mobility in widening participation

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About OFFA

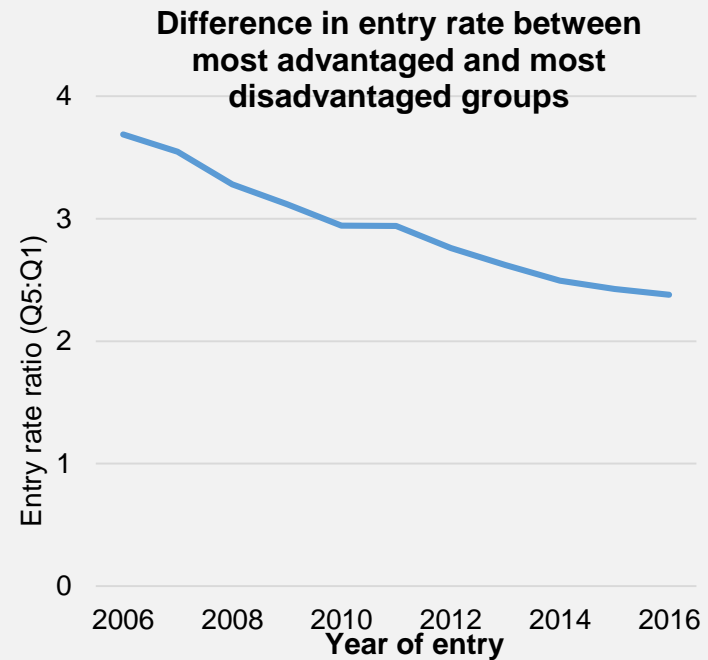
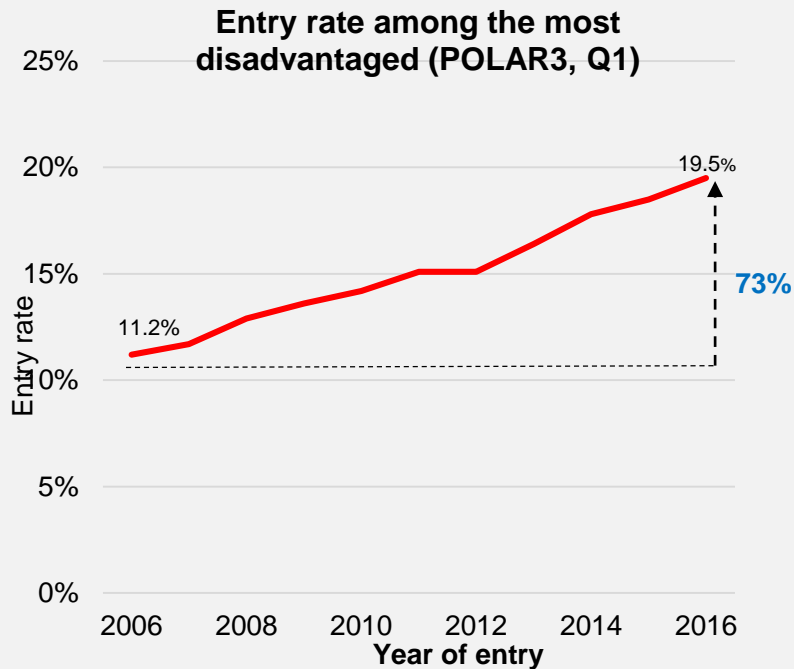


To promote and safeguard fair access to higher education for people from lower income backgrounds and other under-represented groups.

- All institutions charging higher fees must have an access agreement
- Our remit covers:
 - full-time undergraduates
 - part-time undergraduates
 - postgraduate teacher training courses
 - England only.



Entry rates: The number of 18 year olds from low participation neighbourhoods has increased dramatically and the gap is narrowing



Ten years of progress...what's behind it?

- Increase in outreach
- Student lifecycle approach
- Whole institution approach
- More tailored, evidence-based spend
- More collaborative work
- Long-term commitment and resource



Not just getting in, but getting on!



“Access without support
is not opportunity”

Cathy Engstrom and Vincent Tinto, Syracuse University

Outward mobility matters...



Outward mobility benefits:

- students
- institutions
- society

BUT students from low socio-economic backgrounds are under-represented

What we are seeing in access agreements

- Many institutions offer discounted fees, or travel bursaries for work/study abroad
- But rarely targeted at widening participation students
- Very few institutions have targets for outward mobility in their access agreements



Examples of outward mobility in access agreements



- **Kingston University** – Widening Participation International Mobility Fund
- **Kings College London** – Broadening Horizons Award
- **University of Essex** – International Experience Bursaries
- **Keele University** – Study Abroad Bursary
- **Lancaster University** – International Cultural Exchange Bursary
- **University of Southampton** – fully financially supported international experience programme

What more can be done?



- Consider where you are now
- Change perceptions – study/placement abroad is for ‘people like me’
- Good quality information, advice and guidance, including accurate info on finance
- Start early – before key decisions are made
- Work in collaboration – a ‘whole-institution approach’
- Build in evaluation

Thanks for listening...